



**DeSoto, Inc.**

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH CENTER

1700 SOUTH MOUNT PROSPECT ROAD, DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS 60018 TELEPHONE 312-391-9000

LAW DEPARTMENT

July 13, 1983

Deborah K. Woitte  
Office of Enforcement Counsel - Waste  
LE 134-S  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Ninth Avenue Site  
Gary, Indiana

Dear Ms. Woitte:

In our interim response to you of June 16, 1983, we promised a complete response by July 22, 1983. We are in a position to fully respond to your Section 104 letter of June 10, 1983 at this time.

We have conducted an investigation of all records available at our Chicago Heights plant and corporate headquarters and interviewed present and former employees with regard to the Ninth Avenue Site, Steve Martell and Liquid Engineering Company. We have no records or any other information relating to transactions between DeSoto, Inc. and Steve Martell or Liquid Engineering Company. As a result of this investigation, we believe we did not use the Ninth Avenue Site for the storage, treatment, transport or disposal of hazardous wastes or substances at any time from 1973 to the present. Accordingly, we do not have any of the items comprising the definition of "requested information" in your letter of June 10, 1983.

We trust that if U.S. E.P.A. has any information which contradicts this statement, links DeSoto to this Site or to Steve Martell or Liquid Engineering Company, that information will be provided to us at this time. We appreciate the extension of time afforded us to comply with the Section 104 request.

Sincerely,



W. J. Fitzpatrick  
Assistant Corporate Counsel  
and Assistant Secretary

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



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WJF:cr

STATE OF ILLINOIS    )  
                              ) SS  
COUNTY OF COOK       )

A F F I D A V I T

William J. Fitzpatrick, being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says that: he is the Assistant Corporate Counsel and Assistant Secretary of DeSoto, Inc.; that he has knowledge of the matters alleged in the foregoing letter to Deborah K. Woitte dated July 13, 1983; and that the statements made therein are true and accurate to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Further affiant sayeth not.

  
W. J. Fitzpatrick  
Assistant Corporate Counsel  
and Assistant Secretary

Subscribed and Sworn to  
Before Me This 13th Day  
of July, 1983.  
Carol Ellen Rakowski  
Notary Public